

Patent Application of William C. Sawyer for "Collapsible Utility Trailer" continued –

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Claims: I claim:

[C001] 1) A collapsible trailer comprising:

- a) a pair of longitudinal bed sections having inner and outer edges, a central bed section, said pair of longitudinal bed sections and said central bed section forming a platform for supporting objects thereon wherein each of said inner edges of said longitudinal bed sections form a longitudinal pivot axis, and wherein each of said longitudinal bed sections and said central bed section are pivotally interconnected by a hinge member co-located with said longitudinal pivot axis; and whereby said platform has an open position and closed position; wherein when said pair of longitudinal bed sections and said central bed section are in said open position all said sections are substantially co-planar and (2) wherein when said pair of longitudinal bed sections and said central bed section are in said closed position all said sections form a box-like enclosure, said box-like enclosure being generally trapezoidal,
- b) a suspension means interconnected to said outer edges of said pair of longitudinal bed sections and a axle assembly for enabling selective movement of said outer edges of said pair of longitudinal bed sections between said open position and said closed position.

[C002] 2) A collapsible trailer as recited in claim 1, wherein said suspension means comprises:

- a) a suspension joint axially aligned and disposed around each said outer edge for enabling vertical rotation of said longitudinal bed sections; and
- b) a leaf spring attached below said outer edges said leaf spring having a top and a base,
- c) a plurality of spring hangers securing each said top disposed underneath said

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joint, said leaf spring secured to said axle at said leaf spring base.

[C003] 3) The suspension joint as recited in claim 2 further comprising a tubular member, said tubing and said outer edge being complimentary configured for enabling sliding telescopic reception of one said outer edge and said tubing into the other of said outer edge and for establishment of a rotatable connection therebetween.

[C004] 4) A collapsible trailer as recited in claim 1, wherein said hinge member is a single elongated hinged defining an opposed pair of said bed sections said hinge being secured by welding to each said section.

[C005] 5) A collapsible trailer as recited in claim 1, wherein said platform is structurally maintained by a plurality of support members, said suspension joint contiguous to said outer edge and said members.

[C006] 6) A collapsible trailer comprising:

a) a pair of longitudinal bed sections having an inner edge and outer edge, a central bed section positioned between said pair of longitudinal bed sections and generally parallel to the ground, a axle assembly, said pair of longitudinal bed sections and said center bed section forming a platform for supporting objects thereon, said pair sections said central section being pivotally interconnected by a hinge means said inner edges thereof and extending along said central section and forming a longitudinal pivot axis therebetween; and

longitudinal bed section having a upper surface, a lower surface, an inner edge, an outer edge, a first means for joining a suspension assembly to said

longitudinal bed sections, said joining means located proximate said outer edges; and

means pivotally coupling said longitudinal sections to said central section, said coupling means located proximate said inner edges, said longitudinal sections thereby capable of assuming (1) said open position wherein said upper surfaces and said central section are substantially co-planer and (2) said closed position wherein said outer edges are closer relation and generally below said central section and said axle assembly disposed therebetween,

a pair of wheel assemblies mounted to said axle assembly for supporting said trailer in said open and closed positions,

- b) a suspension means interconnected to said outer edges and said axle assembly for enabling movement of said outer between said open position and said closed position.